

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS
FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTSUNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF MARKETS
FOREIGN MARKETING INVESTIGATIONS

Washington, D. C., December 4, 1919

CONTENTS

	Page		Page
The British Egg Market	1	Increased Ocean Freight Rates	
Current Prices of Eggs on the	2	from Argentina	8
British Markets	5	Average Prices of British Grain	8
European Stock Breeders Antici-		Shipments to the United Kingdom	
pate a Good Market in Brazil		from the West	9
for Pure-bred Livestock		Prices of Fruit in Great Britain	9
France Removes Restrictions on		Additional Information Will Be	
Exports of Horses	7	Furnished Upon Request	10
British Wholesale Prices of		Canned Salmon for Sale	10
Special Cuts of Meat	7		

THE BRITISH EGG MARKET

By Edward A. Foley

American Agricultural Trade Commissioner at London

American eggs have gained an enviable place in the English markets during the last few months, and there exist great possibilities in the near future for the further development of these markets. Great Britain has always imported large quantities of eggs. Her home production is large, but in no wise able to meet the enormous consumption of the great cities.

The great demand for fresh-laid eggs has led the local retail merchants to make direct connections with the English producers. Thus, we see almost all English eggs going direct from farmer to retailer. Local eggs are seldom seen in Tooley Street or the other egg centers of the country.

In the London market, which is really the controlling English market, fresh-laid eggs from the surrounding country naturally bring the highest price. Eggs raised within a radius of 250 miles of London bring the best price. In normal times this included some French eggs, but they are no longer to be had. Next in demand are Danish and Irish eggs. Eggs from other countries compete on quality in the open field.

NOTE.---UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, CONVERSIONS OF FOREIGN PRICES INTO U. S. MONEY HAVE BEEN MADE AT THE PAR VALUE OF THE FOREIGN MONEYS.

Sources of Supply.---An idea of the normal British demand and the usual sources of supply may be obtained from the statistics of the prewar importation of the United Kingdom. The part played by the United States in these figures is noticeably unimportant, as Table 1 shows.

TABLE 1.--Prewar Imports of Eggs by the United Kingdom by Calendar Years

Imported from -	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
	: Dozens	: Dozens	: Dozens	: Dozens	: Dozens
United States	11,950	20	93,400	6,000	58,690
Austria-Hungary ...	13,002,460	13,701,210	10,225,500	9,979,870	8,836,510
Belgium	720,800	854,070	492,220	331,160	728,790
Denmark (including					
Faroe Islands) ..	34,282,000	36,471,390	39,929,860	36,238,150	42,649,430
Egypt	7,187,580	5,852,260	6,873,350	10,603,120	10,965,390
France	10,478,500	9,075,990	6,520,360	6,696,870	7,022,310
Germany	6,128,170	5,073,070	5,775,450	5,246,770	5,137,400
Italy	8,757,580	7,463,420	7,711,070	9,583,440	8,457,890
Morocco	5,659,210	3,232,160	2,149,600	2,836,330	1,143,530
Netherlands	6,156,690	5,928,310	6,073,040	8,012,270	9,773,500
Portugal	125,130	93,520	125,280	126,840	55,590
Russia	81,546,350	92,175,860	100,418,900	96,770,930	114,532,770
Spain	254,520	212,540	231,370	315,340	122,310
Sweden	2,593,730	3,103,340	3,442,890	3,055,190	3,849,500
Turkey, Asiatic ...	102,560	150,380	111,000	24,360	25,200
Other foreign					
countries	49,470	44,880	170,740	958,530	2,395,390
Canada	39,840	18,600	147,090	---	19,500
Other British					
possessions	7,770	460	87,120	64,300	24,300
Total	177,104,310	183,441,370	190,578,070	190,850,520	215,799,500

About half the imported supply came from Russia, with Denmark, the Netherlands, France, Austria-Hungary, Germany, and Italy dividing the remaining half. The very slight changes from year to year indicate that this trade was well established, fluctuating very little. An examination of the wartime data given in Table 2 indicates the practical destruction of this great import trade. These data show very definitely the results of the recent conflict. There are no imports from the Central Empires nor Russia. In 1913 Russia supplied 114,532,770 dozens. Those familiar with conditions in Russia do not expect her to be a factor in the English egg market for at least five years. Austria-Hungary supplied 8,836,510 dozens and Germany 5,137,400 dozens. The result of the war has been the practical destruction of this industry in these countries, and it will be long before the German and Austrian products will be popular in these markets, even if home conditions permit their reentry into the trade.

France supplied 7,022,810 dozens and Italy 8,457,890 dozens. The war has changed both of these countries from exporting to importing countries, and I was informed by the representatives of the Departments of Agriculture

of the two countries that it would be at least two years before they would again be factors in the English egg market.

Of the 215 odd million dozens of eggs imported by the United Kingdom in 1913, almost 140,000,000 came from countries which are now not only not producing eggs for export but are themselves importing for home consumption. And, furthermore, none of these countries can in the near future be considered serious factors in the English egg market.

TABLE 2. -- Imports of Eggs by the United Kingdom for the Calendar Years 1914 - 1918

Imported from	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
	Dozens	Dozens	Dozens	Dozens	Dozens
United States	4,932,290	6,278,960	7,797,160	3,493,390	3,373,450
Austria-Hungary	9,116,740	---	---	---	---
Belgium	464,910	---	---	---	---
China (exclusive of Hongkong, Macao, and leased territories) ..	100,470	1,450,900	2,310,050	3,205,390	---
Denmark (including Faroe Islands)	43,159,000	26,578,350	13,921,110	16,549,000	11,705,350
Egypt	11,213,320	14,284,090	18,899,470	16,026,710	7,295,070
France	6,327,410	360	---	---	---
Germany	4,058,940	---	---	---	---
Italy	8,711,930	47,680	---	---	---
Morocco	438,360	1,367,670	277,320	---	30
Netherlands	11,922,660	8,740,130	847,370	2,021,770	---
Portugal	161,640	898,080	11,240	---	---
Roumania	1,263,680	---	---	---	---
Russia	68,708,270	30,741,560	7,344,410	568,450	---
Spain	101,020	60,540	330	---	---
Sweden	3,668,900	1,052,300	41,020	---	---
Turkey, Asiatic	175,320	---	---	---	---
Other foreign countries	707,960	1,605,880	80,330	62,660	172,960
Canada	3,611,730	9,123,260	14,317,780	6,727,510	3,889,850
Other British possessions	78,100	230,500	216,130	549,010	124,440
Total	179,048,050	102,460,260	66,063,770	49,224,020	26,564,150

The United States Becomes an Important Factor in the Trade. --An examination of Table 2 will show that Denmark has assumed Russia's position as the principal source of supply of eggs for the British market, and that the United States has become a factor in this trade. The greater part of the 26,000,000 dozens imported in 1918 were supplied by Denmark; however, the United States supplied 3,373,450 dozens, an amount less than 50 per cent of our 1915 exportation, when we exported 6,278,960 dozens, or our 1916 shipments, which amounted to 7,797,160 dozens. The decrease in 1918 was due, not to the inferiority of the American egg nor to its unpopularity, but to the fact that so many American eggs were diverted to our forces in France.

Table 3, which shows the English egg imports for the first nine months of 1919 tells the story of the results of our efforts in the British markets.

TABLE 3. -- Imports of Eggs by the United Kingdom during September and for the First Nine Months of 1917, 1918, and 1919

Imported from -	Quantities imported during--					
	Month ended Sept. 30 -			Nine months ended Sept. 30 -		
	1917	1918	1919	1917	1918	1919
	: Dozens	: Dozens	: Dozens	: Dozens	: Dozens	: Dozens
United States	35,730	---	526,500	511,970	504,600	8,603,250
Canada	138,000	---	202,120	1,510,140	1,504,140	4,805,380
Denmark	1,655,700	---	3,116,960	8,492,180	5,840,310	10,775,960
Egypt	---	---	30,000	14,555,320	7,222,830	7,097,580
France	---	---	---	---	---	55,800
Italy	---	---	---	---	---	---
Netherlands	91,000	---	---	1,370,670	---	1,200
Russia	---	---	---	588,450	---	---
All other countries	377,280	---	2,540	3,504,130	267,280	2,749,390
Total	2,297,710	---	3,878,120	31,033,860	15,339,160	33,705,160

From this table it will be seen that in the first nine months of this year the United States has increased her exports of eggs over those of 1918 by more than 1,600 per cent.

Egypt is returning as a factor in the egg market, and Denmark leads us only by about 2,000,000 dozens. Canada, it will be noticed, is also reaching out for this market, and is daily becoming a more vital factor.

Demand Exceeds Available Supply.---While the normal English consumption ran from 170 to 210 million dozens, the imports of the last nine months reach only about 30 million dozens. This great difference represents a demand for which there is at present no adequate supply. It is an open market, open to any nation which can supply eggs at less than the control price of 5 shillings (\$1.22 at par) a dozen.

Quality Supreme in the Danish Egg.---The market is fastidious and wants only the best. Competition is based not only on price but also on quality. Our greatest competitors, the Danes, have through their cooperative societies raised egg collecting and handling to a science. Every egg from these societies is marked with the label of the society and the serial number of the branch and of the producer. This is a guaranty that every egg so stamped is fresh. Only the best that America can produce can compete with the Danish product.

Method of Packing Danish Eggs.---Eggs arrive from Denmark by steamer every few days packed in cases 6 ft. by 2 ft. 10 in. by 9 in. The eggs are packed in layers, and each egg is completely encased in wood wool. These cases are long and flat, purposely so. It is the Danish idea that by making a case so heavy and awkward that it takes several men to handle it the chances of breakage by dropping is lessened.

The Irish Egg.---Our next most serious competitor is the Irish egg. Under the direction of the Department of Agriculture of Ireland great improvements have been made in the packing and grading of Irish eggs. They arrive in

boxes 2 ft. 10 in. by 2 ft. 10 in. by 11 in., and are packed in straw. The Irish Sea is a turbulent body of water, and the steamers now available are so small that the Irish product is seriously handicapped, and very often arrives with a high percentage of breakage, causing not only a loss of the broken egg but also a soiling of all the adjacent eggs. However, they have the advantage of a short, if vigorous, haul.

Competition Lacking in Off-Season Trade.---Both the Danish and Irish egg crops are seasonal. There are very few eggs from either place available during the late fall, winter, and early spring months. As cold-storage facilities have not been developed either in Denmark or in Ireland to the extent that they have in the United States, those countries are practically eliminated from the market during the off-seasons.

High Percentage of Breakage in American and Canadian Eggs.---Eggs from the United States and Canada are handled in about the same way and are strong competitors. They are exported in the same kind of case, the egg case with which we are all familiar. The chief complaint against this case is the high percentage of breaks. A careful handler informed me that he loses about one dozen eggs to the case, and there is, of course, the further loss through soiling. In the cases shown me the tops, bottoms, and sides were lined with wood-wool cushions.

Permanent Trade Assured.---If the dealers in the United States will keep in mind the fact that the English market is fastidious and wants clean, well-candled eggs, the future of the egg export trade is assured if eggs can be supplied at a price to meet competition. Well-established houses should look carefully into this field.

It is only fair to state that certain firms have taken advantage of the fact that the English merchant parted with his money before he saw his eggs; and the importer here lost on the deal. However, in the long run these firms have lost out, for the English egg trade is and will be permanent, calling for more eggs than the United States can supply. It can be said without fear of error that the trade will yield adequate returns to those dealers who, carefully grading their eggs and packing them with a view to a long trip across the ocean and some pretty rough treatment by the railroads on this side, see in this trade a permanent business and who live up to the reputation they have established at home.

CURRENT PRICES OF EGGS ON THE BRITISH MARKETS.---According to a report from the American Agricultural Trade Commissioner at London, dated November 8, 1919, "there is a much improved demand for the better grades of eggs at firmer prices, but eggs arriving out of condition are hard to place. Home-produced eggs are in great demand.

"Owing to the cold weather, the supply of Irish eggs has begun to dwindle in quantity and drop in quality; however, there is a steady demand for the best grade.

"There is a brisk demand for the best American and Canadian eggs. To attract a ready sale, however, eggs must be clean and in good condition. Those arriving in poor condition are simply a drug on the market, and the consignor in such cases will hardly realize the freight. Two steamers

arrived recently from Montreal with a total of 21,931 cases of eggs.

"North-of-Ireland eggs are bringing practically as high prices as English eggs, now that eggs are becoming scarcer. Danish eggs have about finished their season on the Liverpool Market. This is also the case with both Irish and Danish eggs at Manchester. The following table gives the market prices of eggs in Great Britain on November 8:

Wholesale Prices of Eggs in Great Britain on November 8, 1919*

London

Kind	Per 120	Per doz.	Kind	Per 120	Per doz.
American:			Irish		
Candled & repacked	31-33s.	\$0.64-0.68	Best	48-49s.6d.	\$1.00
Originals	32s. down	0.66	Ordinary	46-46s.6d.	0.95-0.96
Some as low as	45-75s.**	0.31-0.52	South African	38-40s.	0.79-0.83
Canadian:			Chinese,		
Fresh	36-38s.	0.75-0.79	candled and		
Storage	32-35s.	0.66-0.73	repacked	31-32s.	0.64-0.66
English	50s.	1.04			

Liverpool

American	31s.6d.-	Irish, North	:	:	:
Canadian	32s.6d	0.54-0.67	of Ireland	49-50s.	1.02-1.04
	34-35s.	0.71-0.73			

Bristol

American	35s.	0.73	Irish	50s.	1.04
Canadian	35s.	0.73	Danish,		
English, new-laid	50s.	1.04	preserved	40s.	0.83

Manchester

American	33-36s.	0.68-0.75	Danish	:	:
Canadian	36-38s.	0.75-0.79	Fresh	49-50s.	1.02-1.04
Irish	49-50s.	1.02-1.04	Preserved	38-40s.	0.79-0.83

Glasgow

American	32-32s.6d	0.66-0.67	Irish, f.o.b.	48-49s.6d.	1.00-1.02
Canadian	34-35s.	0.71-0.73			

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 8, when 1 pound sterling = \$4.1475.

**Per case.

EUROPEAN STOCK BREEDERS ANTICIPATE A GOOD MARKET IN BRAZIL FOR PURE-BRED LIVESTOCK, according to Mr. Turner Wright, special investigator in Europe for the Bureau of Markets. Mr. Wright says that breeders in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom look for a greatly increased demand in Brazil, and consider that country the largest future market for their pure-bred stock. A few inquiries for pure-bred animals had been received by European breeders from Central American countries.

FRANCE REMOVES RESTRICTIONS ON EXPORTS OF HORSES.--According to a cablegram received by the Department of Commerce from the American Trade Commissioner at Paris, under date of November 20, 1919, the embargo against the exportation of horses, colts, mules, donkeys, and asses has been removed.

British Maximum Wholesale Prices (per lb.) of Special Cuts of Home-dressed and Imported Meat Cut After Arrival in the United Kingdom*

Cut	Home-killed	Imported	Cut	Home-killed	Imported
<u>Beef</u>					
Sides	\$0.25	\$0.20	Beef (con't)		
Hindquarter and flanks .....	.28	.23	Long crop	\$0.26	\$0.21
Hindquarter ex flanks .....	.29	.24	Suet .....	.29	.23
Top piece ex flank	.26	.21	Kosher forequarters	---	.23
Topside .....	.33	.28	Mutton and lamb		
Thick flank .....	.31	.26	Sheep .....	.26	.21
Silver and fat .....	.30	.25	Hindquarter .....	.30	.25
Aitchbone .....	.20	.14	Forequarter .....	.24	.19
Leg beef .....	.13	.08	Legs .....	.31	.26
Rumps .....	.34	.29	Loins .....	.28	.23
Loin and suet .....	.31	.26	Shoulders .....	.28	.23
Rump and loin .....	.32	.27	Necks .....	.23	.18
Flank .....	.20	.14	Breasts .....	.15	.13
Forequarter beef .....	.23	.18	Scraggs .....	.20	.13
Short forequarter .....	.22	.17	Best ends .....	.30	.25
Short quarter ex brisket .....	.23	.18	Kosher		
Fore rib .....	.30	.25	forequarters	---	.25
Middle piece .....	.25	.20	Pork		
Clod and sticking .....	.20	.15	Pigs .....	.27	.24
Shin .....	.13	.08	Leins .....	.31	.28
Brisket .....	.20	.15	Legs .....	.28	.25
Forequarter flank .....	.20	.15	Bellies .....	.29	.26
			Hands .....	.23	.20
			Flare .....	.24	.20
			Heads .....	.14	.11

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 23 when 1 pound sterling = \$4.05375.

Home-killed Meat.--Country-cut consignments, such as backs of mutton, roastings, etc., are subject to maximum prices as above, but if not cut London custom must be recut London custom. In no case shall the price of home-killed meat sold in accordance with the above schedule aggregate more than the following: Sides beef, \$0.25, forequarters beef, \$0.23, hindquarters beef, \$0.28, sheep and lambs, \$0.27, pigs, \$0.27.

Imported Meat.--When cut, must not aggregate more than the following: Sides of beef, \$0.22, forequarters, \$0.18, hindquarters, \$0.23, sheep and lambs, \$0.22, pigs, \$0.24.

All beef to be cut imported fashion; i.e., quartered between the 10th and 11th (quartered 9 1/2) and to follow straight up between the bones.

All mutton and lamb (including imported) is to be cut home-killed fashion.

The above prices mentioned in these notes are maximum wholesale prices fixed by the order and include a charge of \$0.24 per 100 lbs.

Increased Ocean Freight Rates from Argentina,
Cabled by American Consul General at Buenos Aires, November 21

Commodity	Unit	Rate to --							Denmark
		United	United	United	Kingdom	Antwerp	Spain	France	
		States	Kingdom	Antwerp	Spain	France	Italy	Sweden	
General cargo:	Ton ^a	\$30.00	\$48.67	\$51.10	50.18	\$57.90	\$58.40	\$53.60	
Hides:									
Dry	2,500 lbs	30.00	97.33	97.33	115.80	125.45	121.66	48.24 ^b	
Wet salted	Ton ^a	32.50	48.67	72.99	57.90	67.55	60.83	48.24	
Wool	40 cu. ft.	27.50	36.50	47.45 ^c	53.08 ^c	46.23 ^c	48.67 ^c	40.20 ^b	
Tallow	Ton ^a	40.00	60.83	73.00	57.90	86.85	68.13	53.60	
Meats, cased	do	37.50	48.67	60.83	---	67.55	63.27	46.90	
Grain, heavy	do	30.00	43.80	49.88	43.43	49.88	53.53	42.88	
Linseed	do	32.00	43.80	51.10	46.32	51.10	55.97	45.56	

^aOne ton = 2,204.64 lbs. ^bPer 40 cu. ft. ^cPer cubic meter.

Refrigerated cargo is quoted only to Great Britain at \$0.047 gold per pound and to Scandinavia at \$214.40 per ton. Wool has been booked for Hamburg at \$38.60 per cubic meter.

The Consul General makes the following statement as to the reason for the increased rates: "With the exception of Great Britain, a general and substantial increase in freight rates has been made, especially to Italy and the United States, on account of the temporary shortage in tonnage as a result from the situation regarding labor in the United States, Great Britain, etc., and the increased demand from shippers of grain."

Average Prices Per Bushel Received for British Grain During the Week Ended November 8, 1919, and the Same Week in 1912 - 1918

(Compiled from Returns made to Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; conversion made at par of exchange)

Year	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Year	Wheat	Barley	Oats
1919*	\$2.22	\$2.97	\$1.68	1915	\$1.60	\$1.44	\$0.94
1918	2.20	1.83	1.52	1914	1.21	.88	.75
1917	2.14	1.83	1.30	1913	.91	.84	.54
1916	2.12	1.76	1.08	1912	1.00	.95	.60

*At the rate of exchange prevailing on November 8, 1919, the average prices for the week were per bushel: Wheat \$1.88; barley \$2.54; oats \$1.43.

SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM FROM THE WEST.--Agricultural Trade Commissioner Edward A. Foley calls attention to the prevailing but mistaken opinion that shipments to destinations in southwestern England of non-perishable goods from the western United States must be shipped overland to Atlantic ports; and thence via Liverpool by railway to southwestern points. However, it will be found advisable in many cases to route shipments via San Francisco, Seattle, or Vancouver for Plymouth. West-coast shippers would be able to export dried fruits, canned goods, and other nonperishable commodities at a saving not only of money but also of time. Delays on English railroads, which are very serious at the present time, will thus be obviated.

PRICES OF FRUIT IN GREAT BRITAIN*.--"The past week (November 3-8) has seen the first of the cold weather in the United Kingdom, the real beginning of winter. Snow has fallen in several parts of the country," says Agricultural Trade Commissioner Edward A. Foley in a report dated November 8, 1919.

Fruit Prospects.--"I have returned from an investigation of the fruit prospects in Cornwall and Devonshire. There is a large crop of apples in these counties, but, owing to a lack of transportation facilities, little of the crop is moving to the market. In many orchards piles of from 100 to 300 bushels lay on the ground and were being consumed by cattle and hogs.

"Inquiry of the orchardists brought the information that though they had made efforts to get care these efforts proved unavailing; therefore they were feeding their produce to the hogs; this in spite of the fact that apples of similar quality are being retailed by the London costers at from \$0.10 to \$0.14 a pound. A large portion of the crop is still on the trees, with no incentive offered the grower to gather it.

"We are now feeling the result of the American dock strike, and few apples are arriving; but those arriving in good condition are favorably received and are bringing maximum prices.

"Apples.--LONDON: Cooking apples, per bu. 4 to 8s. (\$0.83 to \$1.66); dessert apples, ordinary, per half-bu. 5s to 6s. 6d. (\$1.00 to \$1.35); best, per half-bu. 10 to 12s. (\$2.07 to \$2.49); Nova Scotia Ribbon, per bbl. 40 to 45s. (\$8.29 to \$9.33); Elenheim, per bbl. 40 to 42s. (\$8.29 to \$8.71).

LIVERPOOL: Nova Scotia and Virginia (slack condition) per bbl. 20 to 60s. (\$4.15 to \$12.44); home-grown, per pot, 5 to 12s. (\$1.04 to \$2.49); BRISTOL: Cox Orange Pippin, per lb., 5 to 8d. (\$0.09 to \$0.14); Ribston, per lb., 3 1/2 to 5d. (\$0.06 to \$0.086); Blenheim Orange Pippin, per cwt., 26 to 34s. (\$5.39 to \$7.05); Kentish, per cwt., 25 to 30s. (\$5.18 to \$6.22); Worcester Pearmain, per cwt., 30 to 40s. (\$6.22 to \$8.29); Peasgood Nonpareil, per cwt., 26 to 36s. (\$5.39 to \$7.47); Bramley Seedling, per cwt., 24 to 30s. (\$4.98 to \$6.22); Tom Putts, per cwt., 16 to 18s. (\$3.32 to \$3.73); Underleaves, per cwt., 16 to 13s. (\$3.32 to \$3.73); Other varieties, per cwt., 10 to 20s. (\$2.07 to \$4.11).

CARDIFF: Bramley Seedling, per cwt., 30s. (\$6.22); Tom Putts, per cwt., 24s. (\$4.98); Lord Derby, per cwt., 28s. (\$5.81); Blenheim, per cwt., 36s. (\$7.47). GLASGOW: There is little to report in prices of American apples. Those arriving in good condition realize maximum prices but many are arriving wasty. Bramley Seedling, per cwt., 28 to 32s. (\$5.81 to \$6.64).

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 8, when 1 pound sterling = \$4.1475.

"Oranges.--The new crops are now coming along in good quantities from Valencia, Malaga, Denia, and America. The color in many cases is not very good, being quite pale; the quality, however, is excellent. LONDON: Denias and Valencias, per case, 420's, 35 to 49s. (\$7.26 to \$10.16); 714's, 36 to 44s. (\$7.47 to \$9.12); 1,064's, 36 to 41s. (\$7.47 to \$12.65); half-case, 200 to 250's, 23 to 31s. (\$4.77 to \$6.13); 300's, 25 to 40s. (\$5.18 to \$8.29); 360's, 20 to 33s. (\$4.15 to \$5.84); Almerias, 300's, 32 to 39s. (\$6.64 to \$8.09); 504's, 30 to 37s. (\$6.22 to \$7.57); Malagas, 200's, 25s. (\$5.18), 300's, 27 to 29s. (\$5.30 to \$6.01), 360's, 24 to 31s. (\$4.93 to \$6.43), 504's, 21 to 33s. (\$4.35 to \$6.84); Garruchas, 300's, 25s. (\$5.18), 504's, 24 to 25s. (\$4.93 to \$5.11), larger, 32 to 40s. (\$6.64 to \$8.29).

LIVERPOOL: Oranges continue in good supply at unchanged quotations; Jamaicas, per box, 30 to 35s. (\$6.22 to \$7.26); Murcias, per half-case, 30 to 40s. (\$5.22 to \$8.29). PRISTOL: Jamaicas, per box, 28 1/2 to 32s. 6d. (\$5.91 to \$6.74); Denias, per case, 200's, 40 to 45s. (\$8.29 to \$9.33); 300's, 40 to 45s. (\$3.29 to \$9.33); 360's, 40 to 45s. (\$8.29 to \$9.33); 504's, 40 to 45s. (\$8.29 to \$9.33); Malagas, per case, 504's, 30 to 35s. (\$6.22 to \$7.26); 672's, 30 to 32s. (\$6.22 to \$6.54); 360's, 33 to 35s. (\$6.24 to \$7.26); 734's, 28s. (\$5.81). CARDIFF: Jamaica Blue Mountains, per case, 175,200, or 216's, 30s. (\$6.22). GLASGOW: Jamaicas, per case, 30s. (\$6.22); California, per case, 45s. (\$9.33).

"Pears.--LONDON: Domestic, per half-bu., 16 to 14s. (\$3.32 to \$2.09). LIVERPOOL: Domestic, per pot, 10 to 20s. (\$2.07 to \$2.15). CARDIFF: Bishops Thumbs, per sieve, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. (\$1.76 to \$1.97); Beauty of Clargo, per sieve, 9 to 10s. (\$1.87 to \$2.07). GLASGOW: Domestic, per half sieve, 10 to 16s. (\$2.07 to \$3.32); California Winter Nelis, per case, 35 to 40s. (\$7.26 to \$8.29).

"The pear season is about at an end. The American pears that have arrived in good condition made a satisfactory showing, but several lots arrived on the London market in a mushy and almost unsalable condition. This was particularly true of California Bartletts.

"Reports from Manchester indicate that Cape cranberries are bring-
ing 35s. (\$7.26) per case."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED UPON REQUEST.--The lack of space necessarily precludes the publication of details in many of the articles appearing in Reports on Foreign Markets for Agricultural Products. However, so far as our facilities permit, the Division of Foreign Markets will furnish upon request such additional information as may be available.

CANNED SALMON FOR SALE.--A firm in Seattle, Wash., desires to dispose of 5,000 cases of salmon in 1-lb. tall cans, 70 lbs. to the case. Further details will be furnished American exporters or foreign importers upon application to the Bureau of Markets. Please refer to trade opportunity "an."

REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS
FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

DEC 16 1919

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF MARKETS
FOREIGN MARKETING INVESTIGATIONS

Washington, D. C., December 11, 1919

CONTENTS

Page	Page		
Food Situation and Agricultural Needs of Germany	1	Boxed Apples Must Be Wired for Export	6
English Pound Reaches its Lowest Mark	3	Potato Loss in Western Canada...	6
Reexports of Foreign Rice and Beans	4	Review of the British Egg Market	7
British Restrictions on Purchase of Sugar	4	Meat Imported into United Kingdom Must Be Labeled	8
Review of the British Fruit Market	5	Reports on Final Series of London Wool Auctions.....	8
		Fixed Price for Lard and Olive Oil at Trieste.....	8

FOOD SITUATION AND AGRICULTURAL NEEDS OF GERMANY
(Abstract of Report made by Dr. F. H. Starling to the British
Government. Continued from Reports on Foreign Markets No. 36)

"Immediate Needs of Germany.---The immediate needs of Germany are: (1) Food for her workers; (2) Concentrated feeding-stuffs and manures for her agriculture; (3) Raw materials for her manufactures.

"In order to stay the constant deterioration in the productivity of the soil, it would be necessary this autumn to import raw phosphates and concentrated feeding-stuffs. In the reconstituting of the agricultural conditions, one of the most pressing needs, if the younger generation is to be saved for future work and production, is to increase the present inadequate supply of milk in the great towns and industrial regions. For this a daily supply of 3,000,000 to 3,500,000 liters (792,500 to 924,600 gallons) of milk represents the minimum requirements for the children and invalids in these areas. This is equivalent to about 500,000 tons of concentrated feeding-stuffs per annum. If the wheat necessary for human consumption is introduced unground, and the milling rate is diminished to 80 per cent, a considerable amount of offal will be available for this purpose. Assuming the importation of 1,000,000 tons of wheat, there will be 200,000 tons of offals. If oil seeds are introduced for the manufacture of margarine,

NOTE.--- UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, CONVERSIONS OF FOREIGN PRICES INTO
U. S. MONEY HAVE BEEN MADE AT THE PAR VALUE OF THE FOREIGN MONEYS.

the manufacture of oil cake can also proceed in the country. It might be advisable in the first few months, however, to import concentrated feeding-stuffs to the credit of the towns and industrial areas, so that they could be exchanged with the farmer against milk and possibly fat meat.

"Of raw materials, among the chief requirements are cotton, wool and flax. It is a question for financiers to determine what working capital is necessary in order to provide credit for the importations required. Some manures and concentrated feeding-stuffs and some raw materials are immediately necessary. Of food, fat, in the form of meat and oil seeds, is immediately necessary. Home production, according to the official forecast, will provide 28.1 grams of fat per head. To raise this to 58.1 grams, the necessary minimum, a further 30 grams per head are necessary. This is equivalent to about 600,000 tons of fat in the year, or 1,800,000 tons of oil seeds, if the whole of the fat requirements are to be furnished in this form. If oil seeds are introduced at the beginning of the year, oil cake will be available for cattle and for the production later on in the year of animal fat. It might, therefore, be advisable to budget for the above amount of seeds for the first 6 months of the coming year; i.e., for an import of 900,000 tons. For the next six months the country can live on the products of its next harvest, but needs animal protein and fat. During this time, given sufficient capital to restart the industries and to begin the recuperation of the soil, the capital at present in private hands and out of circulation will be once more thrown into the German national concern, so that the large importation of food necessary during the latter half of the year 1919-20 should be largely provided for by the export of manufactured products. Years must, however, elapse before the country attains its former stable and prosperous condition. The great increase in German population during the last 25 years was rendered possible only by exploiting the agricultural possibilities of the soil to the greatest possible extent, and this in its turn depended on the industrial development of the country. The reduction by 20 per cent in the productive area of the country, and the 40 per cent diminution in the chief raw material for the creation of wealth, renders the country at present overpopulated, and it seems probable that within the next few years many million (according to some estimates as many as 15,000,000) workers and their families will be obliged to emigrate, since there will be neither work nor food for them to be obtained from the reduced industries of the country.

"The German population is no longer in a condition to stand such a food shortage as occurred in the winter of 1916-17. It would thus seem that Germany stands face to face with a catastrophe which may involve the death of millions by famine and disease unless she can obtain by importation sufficient food to make up her deficit.

"The next harvest is expected to be still poorer than in any of the previous years, and under the Peace Treaty it is estimated that Germany loses 20 per cent of her production in food and 12 per cent of her population. It will therefore be necessary, if Germany is to be restored to a condition in which she can put forth her total working capacity, to import food amounting to about 2,500,000 tons.

Mental Condition of the German People. --- "Three years on a diet insufficient both as to quantity and quality, indigestible, tasteless, and monotonous, has not only resulted in reduced output and efficiency, but has had a marked influence on the mentality of the nation. We found no

spirit of resentment among the workmen we spoke to, but simply a condition of dull depression and lassitude. Nor was there any sense of shame at defeat or feeling for national honour....the feeling of German nationality, which has been created and fostered with such great care during the last 50 years by the rulers of Germany, seems to have entirely disappeared. Business men seem hopeless and despairing, and are sending their capital out of the country. The impression we derived is that the nation of Germany is broken, both in body and spirit....Several years and a large expenditure on concentrated foods and manures will be necessary before the productive state of the land can be brought to its previous figure; but even assuming these most favorable conditions, and that Germany is treated by the world as a sick child to be nursed back to health, it will take one and perhaps even two generations before she can recover her previous efficiency. After that, whether she is a danger or not to Europe depends on her Government. Her docile and industrious people are at any rate sickened of war, and represent no longer any active menace to the peace of Europe.

"The very perfection of social and economic organization in Germany has proved her undoing. No other nation could have liquidated and thrown into the fighting line the whole of its resources in men and material. As a result, up to the last six months of the war Germany was formidable in attack and defence. When, however, her fighting shell broke down at one spot, the whole thing collapsed, and the shell was found to be practically empty.

"This is the condition of Germany at the present time, her supplies of food and raw material exhausted, and her spirit broken. But the social machine is still intact; her factories and a great part of her coal mines, with many hundreds of years' reserves, are intact, and she possesses not only trained scientific foremen of industry but also the most industrious docile and skilled workmen in Europe. There are no marked feelings of resentment against the Allies, and they are ready to work for whoever will feed them and clothe them. There is in fact in Germany a magnificent business paralyzed for lack of working capital, and to be controlled by anyone who will supply this working capital".

ENGLISH POUND REACHES ITS LOWEST MARK.---On December 6 the cable rate on the pound sterling reached the low mark of \$3.86, according to the foreign exchange circular of the Federal Reserve Board. The downward tendency of European exchange is shown by the following table, which gives the lowest points reached by the various currencies during the week ended December 6:

Date	:	Country	:	Currency	:	Present value	:	Par value
Dec. 6	:	England	:	Pound	:	\$3.86	:	\$4.8665
6	:	France	:	Franc	:	.0932	:	.193
6	:	Belgium	:	Franc	:	.098	:	.193
6	:	Italy	:	Lira	:	.078	:	.193
5	:	Argentina	:	Peso	:	1.077	:	1.0365
6	:	Germany	:	Mark	:	.0215	:	.2332
6	:	Poland	:	Mark	:	.014	:	.2382
6	:	Austria	:	Krone	:	.0068	:	.2026
6	:	Mexico	:	Peso	:	.50375	:	.4985

Reexports of Foreign Rice and Beans from the
United States during October, 1919.

Exported to--	Cleane <i>d</i> rice		Beans	
	Quantity Pounds	Value	Quantity Bushels	Value
Austria-Hungary	32,500	\$3,963	---	---
Belgium	31,295	7,276	---	---
Denmark	---	---	1,907	\$7,604
Finland	3,075,876	371,404	---	---
Germany	150	27	3,500	\$18,100
Greece	---	---	44,128	\$254,701
Italy	---	---	27,165	\$106,392
Norway	94,717	10,590	---	---
Romania	---	---	3,733	\$10,000
Russia in Europe	224,000	18,000	---	---
Sweden	---	---	3,345	\$7,882
England	---	---	29,820	\$167,737
Canada	165,984	8,299	---	---
Honduras	2,500	200	---	---
Panama	300,000	30,300	---	---
Mexico	231,562	24,644	28	105
Trinidad and Tobago	5,000	613	144	574
Other British West Indies .	7,086	817	---	---
Cuba	6,564,076	647,657	10,926	\$57,150
Dominican Republic	160,516	20,680	---	---
Haiti	23,146	2,660	---	---
Brazil	9,945	1,210	200	1,200
Colombia	6,250	893	4	29
French Guiana	2,240	275	---	---
Venezuela	107,500	12,791	4	28
All others	2,243	212	503	622
Totals	11,395,591	\$1,162,511	125,412	\$632,124

*Reexports of unclean*d* rice: Cuba, 494,700 pounds, valued at \$63,300; Dominican Republic, 92,450 pounds, valued at \$11,556; Chile, 30,000 pounds, valued at \$4,050. Reexports of rice flour, rice meal, and broken rice: Mexico, 41,120 pounds, valued at \$1,790.

BRITISH RESTRICTIONS ON PURCHASE OF SUGAR. ---The British Food Controller has issued a statutory order entitled "The Sugar (restriction of delivery) Order, 1919", requiring that no person shall make delivery of any sugar which may arrive in the United Kingdom after December 27, 1919. It is stated that the order has been rendered necessary by the world's shortage of supply and by the recent inflation of prices, which has been intensified by the increased competition to private trading in sugar side by side with Government purchases.

REVIEW OF THE BRITISH FRUIT MARKET FOR THE WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 15*

(Report from Edward A. Foley, American Agricultural Trade Commissioner at London)

The past week or so showed no changes in the fruit market. Large local supplies have successfully eliminated competition with imported fruit. Lack of railroad cars still is the cause for large quantities of apples not reaching the market.

Apples

London.--English cooking apples ranged from 4s.6d. to 6s.6d. (\$0.92-\$1.33) per bushel.

Blenheims brought 7 to 10s. (\$1.61-\$2.05)

Dessert apples, 4 to 9s. (\$0.82-\$1.85) per half bushel

Liverpool.--There were many imported apples on the Liverpool market as it is free from competition with home-grown fruit. The following prices were realized:

California Yellow Newtown, 23s. (\$4.72) per box

Red, 20 to 22s. 6d. (\$4.11 to \$4.52) per box

Canadian Baldwin, 32 to 54s. (\$6.57 to \$11.09) per bbl.

Baldwins from Boston and Maine, 21 to 45s. (\$4.31 to \$9.24) per bbl.

Northern Spy, 26 to 60s. (\$5.34 to \$12.32) per bbl.

Virginia and Nova Scotia, 20 to 60s. (\$4.11 to \$12.32) per bbl.

English apples, 5 to 12s. (\$1.03 - \$2.46) per pot

Glasgow.--Large arrivals of English apples within the past few days have flooded this market and prices have dropped to from 10 to 13s. (\$2.05-\$3.70) per cwt. (112 lbs.).

Pears

London.--No quotations.

Liverpool.--Pears have been in good demand.

English pears 10 to 20s. (\$2.05 - \$4.11) per pot

Oregon pears 20 to 25s. (\$4.11 - \$5.13) per box

Bristol.--Demand weaker.

Per lb.

Per lb.

Bergamot ... 33 to 3 1/2d. (\$0.05 - \$0.06) Dutchess ... 5 to 9d. (\$0.09-\$0.15)

Conference, 4 to 6d. (\$0.07 - \$0.10) Comice 7d. to 1s. (\$0.12-\$0.21)

Pitmaston .. 5 to 8d. (\$0.09 - \$0.14) Per bbl.

Belgian ... 116 to 20s (\$3.29-\$4.11)

Glasgow.--

English 10 to 16s. (\$2.05 - \$3.29) per half-sieve (1/2 bbl)

California Winter Nellis, .. 35 to 40s. (\$7.19-\$8.22) per box

Oranges

Oranges are arriving in good quantities but the price of the best classes of fruit remains firm. The price of inferior fruit shows a tendency to drop.

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 15 when 1 pound sterling = \$4.1075.

London.-- Supply good.

Denia and Valencia:

	Per case	Per half-case
420's, 33 to 61s. (\$6.78-\$12.53)	200/250's, 22 to 40s. (\$4.52-\$8.22)	
714's, 33 to 61s. (\$6.78-\$12.53)	300's, 20 to 32s. (\$4.11-\$6.57)	
1064's, 36 to 62s. (\$7.39-\$12.73)	360's, 19 to 30s. (\$3.90-\$6.16)	
Large 38 to 52s. (\$7.80-\$10.68)	504's, 18 to 30s. (\$3.70-\$6.16)*	

Garrucha:

	Per half-case	Per half-case
200's, 30s. (\$6.16)		360's, 22 to 27s. (\$4.52-\$5.55)
300's, 24 to 32s (\$4.93-\$6.57)		504's, 21 to 38s. (\$4.31-\$7.30)

Murcia:

300's, 20 to 25s. (\$4.11-\$5.13)	per half-case
360's, 19s. (\$3.90)	per half-case
504's, 16s. 6d. (\$3.39)	per half-case

Liverpool.--Valencia fruit of good quality and color in demand.

Valencia:

	Per half-case	Per half-case
360's, 37 to 39s. (\$7.60-\$3.01)	240's ... 33 to 40s. (\$7.80-\$5.22)	
300's, 37 to 39s. (\$7.60-\$3.01)	504's ... 35 to 40s. (\$7.19-\$8.22)	
Jamaica ... 23 to 30s. (\$5.75-\$6.16)	per box	
Murcia ... 30 to 40s. (\$6.16-\$8.22)	per half-case	

Cardiff.--Orange trade is very dull, turn over being less than for any corresponding period in recent years.

Jamaica ... 30s. (\$6.16) per case, irrespective of count.

Glasgow.--

Jamaica ... 30 to 34s. (\$6.16 - \$6.98) per case

California 45s (\$9.24) per case.

BOXED APPLES MUST BE WIRED FOR EXPORT.--Transatlantic shipping concerns have issued instructions that no boxed apples will be received for export unless the boxes are wired or roped, according to the Fruit Trade Journal and Produce Record for October 4, 1919. It is said that the standard northwestern apple box is not suitable for export without wiring and causes 10 per cent damage, or \$40 to 100 boxes.

POTATO LOSS IN WESTERN CANADA.--In Reports on Foreign Markets No. 34, page 8, attention was called to the serious injury to potatoes in Saskatchewan by the extraordinarily early frosts of October 3 and the following days. According to a report from the American Consul at Kingston, the first estimates of the damage were exaggerated. However, official figures recently published show that about 1,000,000 bushels of potatoes have been frozen in the ground in western Canada, meaning a loss of \$1,000,000. As the estimated yield this year was only 5,000,000 bushels, or 2,000,000 less than that of last year, the seriousness of the loss is apparent.

The Fruit Commissioner for British Columbia states that nearly 50 per cent of the potato crop of that Province has been frozen in the ground and that cars can not be had to move the potatoes that have been harvested. The shortage of cars has affected the market to a great extent. The Consul reports that for the first time in years the freeze came in October and hundreds of markets gardeners were caught unawares.

REVIEW OF THE BRITISH EGG MARKET FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 15

(Report from Edward A. Foley, American Agricultural Trade Commissioner at London)

Egg prices have a firmer tendency, helped both by the cold weather and the rapid decrease in the receipts of Irish and Danish eggs. American and Canadian eggs are coming in more rapidly, though the heavy fall in exchange has added considerably to the price of those from the United States.

London.--There were very small offerings of either Irish or Danish eggs, the supply of the latter being practically exhausted. A fairly good supply of American and Canadian eggs were on hand. Two vessels arrived from China, one with 4,734 cases, and the other with 4,166 cases. At the present time the second vessel has not unloaded.

Liverpool.--On account of its proximity of Ireland there are some Irish eggs on the market; the best of which brought the maximum price of 50s. per great hundred (120 eggs). Danish eggs were off the market.

Birmingham.--The few Irish eggs on the Birmingham market brought the maximum prices. Eggs from Canada and the United States were in good demand.

Manchester.--Fresh Irish and Danish eggs were insufficient to meet a third of the demand.

Glasgow.--Eggs are in good demand at Glasgow. Irish eggs are scarce, and the shippers are demanding prices above the food control rate. During the week there have been heavy arrivals of eggs from Canada and the United States.

Wholesale Prices of Eggs in Great Britain on November 15, 1919*

London

Kind	: Per 120	: Per doz.	::	Kind	: Per 120	: Per doz.
American:	:	:	::	Irish	50s.	\$1.03
Candled & repacked	33-34s.	:\$0.68-0.70:	::	Chinese	:	:
Originals	70-30s**:	.50- .55:	::	Candled	:	:
Canadian:	:	:	::	and re-:	:	:
Fresh	40-42s.	.82- .86:	::	packed..:	30-32s.	.62- .66
Storage	34-36s.	.70- .74:	::	Danish..:	48s.6d-50s1.00-1.03	

Liverpool

American	31-32s.6d:	\$0.64-0.67:	Irish, Best	50s.	\$1.03
Canadian	35-36s.:	.72-0.74:	:	:	:

Birmingham

American	33-35s.	:\$0.68-0.72:	Irish ...:	50s.	\$1.03
Canadian	38s. :	.78:	Danish, :	:	:
English, new-laid ..:	50s. :	1.03:	preserved 39-40s. :	.80-0.82	

Manchester

American	33-36s.	:\$0.68-0.74:	Danish:	:	:
Canadian	36-38s. :	.74- .78:	Fresh,..:	49-50s.	:\$1.00-1.03
Irish	49-50s. :	1.00-1.03:	Preserved 38-40s. :	.78- .82	

Glasgow

American	32-33s.	:\$0.66-0.68:	Irish, f.o.b.:	50s.	\$1.03
Canadian	34s.6d.-:	:	f.o.b. :	:	:

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 15, when 1 pound sterling = \$4.1075.

**Per case.

MEAT IMPORTED INTO UNITED KINGDOM MUST BE LABELED.--The British Food Controller has issued an order requiring that imported meat for sale by retail butchers must be labeled with the words "imported" or "imported meat".

REPORTS ON FINAL SERIES OF LONDON WOOL AUCTIONS*

(Cabled Reports for Bureau of Markets from American Consul General at London)

The final series of auctions of colonial wools for 1919 opened on December 1, with offerings for the series of 89,300 bales of Australian and 64,700 bales of New Zealand wools. The sales will continue for 15 days. There also will be offered at description sales 47,000 bales of Australian and 13,000 bales of New Zealand wools.

The sale proceeded with an active demand, including fair purchases for America at the closing level of the November series. Merino wools ruled on a par to 5 per cent higher than in November, with no alteration for the fine and medium qualities of crossbreds; coarse grades were 5 per cent easier.

Victoria greasy merinos brought from 60 to 92 1/2d. (\$1.00 to \$1.54), while the best scoured merinos realized 118 1/2d. (\$1.93). Similar qualities from Sydney brought 118d. (\$1.97).

Public sales of Australasian wools at Antwerp will take place from December 8 to 22.

At the wool auctions on the 2d 11,700 bales were offered. There was a spirited demand for merino and fine crossbreds, the values ruling decidedly in favor of sellers, but coarser grades of greasy crossbreds sold irregularly at an initial decline. Greasy merinos brought prices ranging up to 84 and 92d. (\$1.38 and \$1.52) and the best scoured merino combings from Sydney realized 115d. (\$1.90).

On the 3d 10,300 bales were offered. Fine sorts were firm, but coarse grades, especially shabby qualities, often sold 10 per cent below the 1st auction rates. A selection of specially good greasy merinos from Sydney realized 70 to 81d. (\$1.14 to \$1.31).

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on December 1, when 1 pound sterling = \$4.00375; December 2, \$3.9575; December 3, \$3.8925.

FIXED PRICE FOR LARD AND OLIVE OIL IN TRIESTE--The American Consul at Trieste cabled on November 26 that the Civilian Commissioner for Trieste had fixed the price of pure lard at \$0.367 per pound; compound lards at \$0.296 per pound, and olive oil at \$1.63 per gallon.

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 15 when 1 lira = \$0.078.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED UPON REQUEST.--The lack of space necessarily precludes the publication of details in many of the articles appearing in Reports on Foreign Markets for Agricultural Products. However, so far as our facilities permit, the Division of Foreign Markets will furnish upon request such additional information as may be available.

REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
SERIALS
ES REL/ 1919
DEC 25 1919
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF MARKETS
FOREIGN MARKETING INVESTIGATIONS

Washington, D. C., December 18, 1919

CONTENTS

Page		Page	
1	Sugar Situation in the United Kingdom	Imports of Wool by the United States for October, 1919	5
2	Germany Prohibits Exports of Necessaries	Irish Merchant Desires to Find Market for Hides and Sheepskins	5
2	British Restrictions on Exports of Certain Agricultural Products Removed	Diminishing Milk Supply of Tunis	6
2	Trend of Foreign Exchange for Week Ended December 13	Condensed Milk Situation in Japan	6
3	Price of English Barley Soars	Exports of Butter from Argentina	7
3	Rice Situation in the Far East Improves	Market for Preserves, Jams, and Jellies in Honduras	7
4	Wheat Needs of France	Fixed Prices for Irish Flax	8
4	Decrease in Prices of Horses and Cattle in Sweden	Port Situation Regarding Export Traffic	8
5	Reports on Final Series of London Wool Auctions	Announcement of "The Market Reporter"	8

SUGAR SITUATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.---The fixed prices for sugar in the United Kingdom were published in Reports on Foreign Markets No. 34, page 2. These prices were set by the Royal Commission on the Sugar Supply and became effective on November 3. The Royal Commission stated in issuing these revised prices that it deemed it necessary to increase the price in the United Kingdom in order to insure a decrease in the demand. The official statement in fixing the price reviews the present world situation and is of vital interest in this country in consideration of the present outlook.

"In view of the serious increase in the world price of sugar, it has become necessary to increase the selling price in the United Kingdom. The world supply of sugar is not sufficient to meet the effective demand, and at the present rate of consumption a continued shortage is to be expected. The beet-sugar production in Europe has fallen by 4,200,000 tons since 1914, while the cane-sugar production of the world has risen by

NOTE.---UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, CONVERSIONS OF FOREIGN PRICES INTO U. S. MONEY HAVE BEEN MADE AT THE PAR VALUE OF THE FOREIGN MONEYS.

only 1,800,000 tons, thus leaving a net decrease of 2,400,000 tons in the supplies. In America the prohibition of the use of beer and spirits has led to an increased demand for sugar in various forms. In this country the high price of sugar, as compared with the prewar price, has not led to a reduced consumption. These factors made the position more acute. As a result of timely purchases by the Sugar Commission, the present retail price of sugar in the United Kingdom is at least 3d. (\$0.06) per lb. below the price at which supplies purchased now could be retailed, and for some time the loss on the sale of sugar has been met out of the reserves accumulated during the earlier period of control.

"500,000 Tons Less To Be Imported Next Year.--With the prospect of the early exhaustion of the supplies in hand, it is no longer possible to maintain the present low price of 6 3/4d. to 7 3/4d. (\$0.135 to \$0.155) per lb., and the Food Controller has accordingly decided to make an increase of 1d. (\$0.02) per lb. in the retail price of sugar as from Monday, November 3. The high prices ruling for sugar will doubtless stimulate production, but for the present it will be necessary to secure a decrease in the demand. It has accordingly been decided to maintain the individual sugar ration at 8 oz. per person per week, and to prohibit private traders from making purchases in excess of the national requirements, as estimated by the Sugar Commission. In accordance with this policy, the Sugar Commission have decided that during the year 1920 the total quantity of sugar imported into the United Kingdom shall be at least 500,000 tons less than the quantity to be imported during the present year. Efforts are also being made to obtain a general economy in the consumption of sugar in other countries, and it is hoped that any saving in this direction will not be without its effect on prices."

GERMANY PROHIBITS EXPORTS OF NECESSARIES.--Germany has restricted the exportation of articles of vital necessity without a special permit. The violation of this regulation is punishable by imprisonment, according to a proclamation of the Minister of Economics published in the *Reichs Anzeiger*, Berlin, for December 1, 1919. The following agricultural commodities have been designated as articles of vital necessity: foodstuffs, animal feed of all kinds including seeds; horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, fowl; animal and vegetable oils and fats; artificial fertilizers, especially phosphates, nitrates and potash; manufactured tobacco, especially that of domestic production; hides and skins; bones, glucose, and gelatine; lumber, especially building timber, sawed and hewed lumber, mining lumber, ties, pulp lumber and lumber for fuel.

BRITISH RESTRICTIONS ON EXPORTS OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS REMOVED.--The following agricultural products have been removed from the British list of prohibited exports, according to a cablegram from the American Consul General at London, dated December 11, 1919: gram, dal, millet seed; dried fruits except sultanas, dried figs and raisins other than California seeded raisins; oleaginous kernels, nuts, seeds, by-products, except palm kernels, copra, cottonseed, linseed, peanuts, and soybeans.

TREND OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR THE WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 13.--In view of the widespread interest in foreign exchange and its effect on the domestic commerce as well as upon the foreign trade of the United States, the following table, compiled from statistics furnished by the Federal Reserve Board, is being given in more detail than in previous Reports on Foreign Markets. The quotations of the Federal Reserve Board show that during the week the English pound reached a new low point, \$3.68. With it dropped the exchange of most of the European countries. Only the exchange in the Far East remains strong.

Cable Rates for Foreign Exchange During Week Ended December 13

Country	Coin	Par	Highest	Lowest	Country	Coin	Par	Highest	Lowest
England . . .	Pound	\$4.8665	\$4.8525	\$3.68	Spain . . .	Peso	\$0.193	\$0.2015	\$0.191
France . . .	Franc	.193	.0925	.0847	Denmark . . .	Krone	.268	.188	.174
Belgium . . .	do	.193	.0963	.0892	Norway . . .	Krone	.268	.209	.195
Italy	Lira	.193	.0773	.0735	Sweden . . .	Krona	.262	.219	.209
Switzer- . . .	land	.193	.198	.181	land . . .	Guilder	.402	.3838	.3725
Germany . . .	Mark	.2382	.026	.019	Argentina	Peso	1.0365	1.019	1.017
Poland . . .	Mark	.2382	.0125	.011	Brazil . . .	Milreis	.5462 ^a	.32 ^b	.30 ^b
Czecho- . . .					Mexico . . .	Peso	.4985	.505	.50375
Slovakia . . .	Krone	.2026	.0135	.017	Japan . . .	Yen	.4925	.5025	.501
Jugo-Slav- . . .	Krone	.2026	.01	.009	China . . .				
Roumania . . .	Leu	.193	.031	.028	Hongkong	Dollar	.564 ^a	1.03	.98
					Shanghai	Tael	1.20 ^a	1.65	1.60

^aGold. ^bGovernment paper. ^cApproximate.

PRICE* OF ENGLISH BARLEY SOARS---English barley is now selling at the highest price known during the past seventy years, according to a report of the American Consul at Hull, England, dated November 3, 1919. The Consul says at Driffield in the Hull district malting barley has sold for 125s. (\$23.80) per quarter of 448 lbs., or \$2.97 per bu. In view of this high price farmers are said to be confining their threshing temporarily to barley.

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 8, when 1 pound sterling = \$4.1475.

RICE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST IMPROVES---The American Consul General at Hongkong reported, under date of October 21, 1919, that "the general rice situation in Hongkong and South Asia has very materially improved in the past month, and it is now anticipated that there will be no further serious trouble. Present indications are that there will be large crops of rice all over the Far East. The local crops in South China are reported as very satisfactory, while reports from central China, Indo-China, Siam, and Burma are also satisfactory. Even the Philippines are producing more grain than usual. A largely increased acreage and a favorable season bid fair to relieve the Orient from

further troubles as to rice shortage though it seems probable that prices will be maintained at a comparatively high level for some time to come."

During the first nine months of the current year, Hongkong has exported 486,355 tons of 2,000 lbs. of rice, as shown in the following table:

Countries	Exports of Rice from Hongkong for the First Nine Months of 1919 (Quantity expressed as tons of 2,000 lbs.)						Total
	White rice	Cargo rice	Broken rice	Glutinous rice	Red rice		
China	22,824	8,727	76,399	190	33	103,173	
United States	45,571	3,921	--	113	---	49,505	
Central & South America and West Indies...							
Japan & Korea	34,999	3,159	--	41	---	33,199	
All other countries:	169,414	6,475	65,920	13,861	55	255,725	
Total	26,851	1,826	251	2,285	3,439	74,653	
	299,559	24,108	142,570	16,491	3,527	486,355	

As this table shows, Japan so far has taken about 54 per cent of the total exports from Hongkong, as against about 20 per cent last year. China obtained about 22 per cent as against 40 per cent in 1918. The United States has taken only 10 per cent as compared with 20 per cent last year. In this connection it is interesting to note that a great deal of the importation of rice from Hongkong by the United States during the past two years eventually found its way to Central and South America and the West Indies. So far this year Hongkong has exported an unusual amount of rice to Central and South America and also to Cuba.

WHEAT NEEDS OF FRANCE.---France will need to import about 147,000,000 bushels of wheat this year, as the harvest amounted to only 176,300,000 bushels, says the London Grain, Seed, and Oil Reporter for October 11, 1919. In the prewar year 1914 France produced nearly 283,000,000 bushels; in 1918 about 225,000,000 bushels.

DECREASE IN PRICES OF HORSES AND CATTLE IN SWEDEN.---The American Consul General at Stockholm reports under date of October 28, 1919, that "from Kalland come reports of substantial reductions in the prices of horses and cattle in the Gothenburg district. The Kalland correspondent of 'Dagens Nyheter' writes that a horse which last spring would bring 3,000 kroner (\$804), now sells for 1,800 kroner (\$482.40). The average price for a cow in the spring was 1,200 kroner (\$321.60). The present price is 700 kroner (\$187.60)."

REPORTS ON FINAL SERIES OF LONDON WOOL AUCTIONS*

(Cabled reports for Bureau of Markets from American Consul General at London)

At the London auctions of Australasian wools on December 4th 8,600 bales were offered. Greasy merino clips from Sydney sold as high as 3ld. (\$1.32). Scoured merinos from Victoria brought the following prices: combings, 113d. (\$1.93); clothing merinos, 100 1/2d. (\$1.84). Some of the best of the greasy wools were purchased for American account but the bulk was taken by purchasers from Yorkshire.

At the auction of December 5th 10,000 bales, mostly crossbreds, were offered. Owing to a heavy supply, coarse crossbreds, a quality which is not now being purchased by American buyers, sold from 10 to 20 per cent below the rate prevailing at the last auction. A small supply of merinos realized as high as 33d. (\$1.35) for those from Swan River, 79 1/2d. (\$1.30) for those from Queensland, and 76d. (\$1.24) for merinos from Sydney, New South Wales.

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on December 4, when 1 pound sterling = \$3.9175; December 5 = \$3.8775.

Imports of Wool by the United States for October, 1919

Imported from -	Quantity : Value	Imported from -	Quantity : Value
	Pounds :		Pounds :
Belgium	32,564:\$ 35,027::	Bolivia	54,924:\$ 34,227
France	110,664: 69,677::	Chile	4,937,869: 2,538,688
Greece	130,689: 29,509::	Ecuador	55,221: 9,363
Spain	25,301: 14,870::	Peru	454,741: 236,638
Turkey-in-Europe	1,112,804: 330,417::	Uruguay	2,759,928: 1,458,471
United Kingdom	9,313,177: 5,774,899::	China	6,171,448: 2,247,929
Canada	549,413: 345,923::	Russia-in-Asia	53,460: 29,700
Newfoundland and		Turkey-in-Asia	46,360: 11,120
Labrador	19,448: 12,451::	British South Africa	57,167: 20,578
Argentina	16,193,856: 7,179,073::	All other countries	23,682: 7,853
		Total	\$44,117,721:\$20,335,513

IRISH MERCHANT DESIRES TO FIND MARKET FOR HIDES AND SHEEPSKINS.--- A merchant of Cork, Ireland, desires to be placed in touch with companies and agents to whom he could consign hides and sheepskins. If interested, ask for report Ireland 129536.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED UPON REQUEST.---The lack of space necessarily precludes the publication of details in many of the articles appearing in Reports on Foreign Markets for Agricultural Products. However, so far as our facilities permit, the Division of Foreign Markets will furnish upon request such additional information as may be available.

DIMINISHING MILK SUPPLY OF TUNIS INDICATES POSSIBLE MARKET FOR CONDENSED MILK.---Milk has recently been advanced to 1.3 francs per liter, retail, or about \$0.13 a quart, according to a report from the American Consul at Tunis, dated November 7, 1919. The following excerpts indicate that there may be a market in Tunis for American condensed milk, provided the value of the franc strengthens: "The significant diminution in the milk supply throughout the Regency, resulting, it is reported, from the degeneration of the herds, furnishes a serious problem to the victualling commission and the committee for fixing fair prices." The latter commission has consented to the advance in price and has promised a regulation prohibiting the use of fresh milk in restaurants and cafes. In this connection, the Tunisian press points out that recourse must be had by householders and restaurateurs to condensed milk. At the time of making the report the condensed milk sold at about 1.9 francs per can. At the rate of exchange then prevailing this means \$0.21.

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 7, when 1 franc = \$0.1117.

CONDENSED MILK SITUATION IN JAPAN.---The manufacture of condensed milk in Japan has made considerable progress during the last few years. It is expected that the production for this year will amount to 1,200,000 cases (one case containing 48 cans) valued at 6,000,000 yen (\$2,991,000), which is about the consumptive requirements of Japan. Besides this, about 1,000,000 yen (\$498,500) worth of condensed milk is imported annually, according to the Japan Chronicle for October 22, 1919. It may appear at first glance that this is more than would be consumed by Japan, but the excess of the supply over the demand is exported to China and the South Sea Islands; at the same time a large quantity is used by confectioners. It is expected that the production will increase by 360,000 dozen cans.

This branch of Japanese industry has been developed mainly because of the stoppage of imports during the war and the special protection given by the Japanese Government. A duty of 5.5 yen (\$2.74) per 100 kin of 133 1/3 lbs. is imposed upon imports of condensed milk. The Japanese manufacturers are exempted from paying an income tax during the first three years of the establishment of their business, and the sugar consumption tax is also returned to them.

However, the Japan Chronicle states that the steady importation of condensed milk is competing severely with the Japanese product.

There has been recently organized in Japan the Japanese Condensed Milk Manufacturers' Association, and this combination is now taking steps to protect the industry against the competition of foreign goods at home and in the markets of the Far East, according to an article in the Japan Advertiser for October 18, 1919. According to this publication the Japanese have set to work to increase their production and to improve their product to hold the market, and as a result of constant effort during the last three years, the Japanese product is said to be in no way inferior to that produced in many foreign countries. The manufacturers have felt the fear of foreign competition, which was begun in Japan by American manufacturers, and at Singapore by British manufacturers.

The Japanese Condensed Milk Manufacturers' Association therefore has recently requested the Government to help them in their endeavor to withstand foreign competition.

At present Japanese condensed milk has a large share in the domestic market, but some American goods have still a secure position because their superior quality is appreciated by the consumers. The American brands of condensed milk are quoted by jobbers at 26 and 27 yen (\$13.16 and \$13.66*) per case; while the Japanese-made are somewhat lower, being quoted at 22 yen (\$11.14*) per case.

Exports from the United States.--The great increase in the exportation of condensed and evaporated milk from the United States to Japan during the war period is well shown in the following statistics:

Exports of Condensed and Evaporated Milk from the United States to Japan for the fiscal years 1914-1919

Year	Pounds	Value	Year	Pounds	Value
1914	259,390	\$15,156	1917	4,221,372	\$472,271
1915	2,738,192	318,743	1918	6,192,196	904,287
1916	4,749,560	417,827	1919	3,325,772	546,240

It will be noted from the above table that our exports of condensed milk to Japan took a sudden jump during the first year of the war, the fiscal year ended June 30, 1915. Since that time there has been a steady increase with the exception of the year 1917 during which period the exports fell off slightly.

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on October 18, when 1 yen = \$0.50625.

Exports of Butter from Argentina, 1914 - 1918 and for the First Nine Months of 1919

(Quantities expressed in cases of 25 kilos, or 55.115 lbs.)

	cases		cases	
Jan. 1 - Oct. 2, 1919	454,556	::	Year 1916	216,730
Jan. 1 - Oct. 2, 1918	378,097	::	Year 1915	189,206
Year 1918	595,764	::	Year 1914	124,855
Year 1917	383,144	::		

As shown by the foregoing table, during October, November, and December, 1918, Argentina exported 217,667 cases of butter. If only this same quantity is shipped during the last three months of 1919, the exports of this year will exceed those of last year by 76,459 cases. In 1918 the United Kingdom took all but 10,422 cases of Argentine butter, and this year practically the entire supply was bought by the United Kingdom.

MARKET FOR PRESERVES, JAMS, AND JELLIES IN HONDURAS.--There is a strong demand for preserves, jams, and jellies of all kinds, says the American Vice Consul in Charge at Puerto Cortes, Honduras, in a report to the Department of State, dated November 13, 1919. Before the war English jams enjoyed an extensive sale but now the market is practically covered by American products.

A list of the merchants at Puerto Cortes, and San Pedro Sula who are interested in the sale of these commodities, may be obtained upon application to the Bureau of Markets by asking for report Honduras 123750.

FIXED PRICES FOR IRISH FLAX.--The British Ministry of Munitions issued an order on December 2 fixing prices for the crop of Irish flax, according to a cablegram from the American Consul General at London, dated December 5, 1919. The crop has been divided into six grades and the following maximum prices fixed: first-grade, 45s. per stone of 14 lbs. (\$0.78 per lb.); second-grade, 43s. per stone (\$0.75 per lb.); third-grade, 41s. per stone, (\$0.71 per lb.); fourth grade, 39s. per stone, (\$0.68 per lb.); fifth grade, 37s. per stone, (\$0.64 per lb.); sixth grade, 35s. per stone (\$0.61 per lb.). Flax inferior to the sixth grade will be paid for according to its relative value. In all cases the above prices apply to delivery at an appointed center.

POR T SITUATION REGARDING EXPORT TRAFFIC.--According to a report from the United States Railroad Administration, British steamers now discharging at the port of New York will load with provisions for the British Ministry of Food. It is not anticipated that any of the British steamers will be tied up on account of the embargo on coal, as arrangements have been made to bunker in England all steamers of sufficient bunkerage capacity with coal for the round trip or with sufficient coal to reach Halifax, where they will receive additional coal to continue the trip.

Owing to the embargo, permits are being issued to cover freight for delivery to American steamers only or to foreign steamers not dependent on American coal for bunkering.

There has been a marked falling off in the number of permits issued for merchandise freight and grain during the past two weeks through the port of Philadelphia. By reason of the coal embargo precautions are being taken in the issuance of permits and an investigation developed that practically all vessels have been bunkered for either the round trip or with sufficient fuel to take them to Nova Scotia. At Baltimore the grain situation is quiet and the elevators are in a position to handle a considerably greater tonnage. The flour situation shows a slight improvement.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF "THE MARKET REPORTER"

Beginning about January 1, 1920, "The Market Reporter," a periodical of general interest devoted to marketing information concerning important agricultural products, will be published weekly by the Bureau of Markets. It will be sent free to those interested who make request for it to the Bureau of Markets, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., and who give the following information: (a) name and full address, (b) business or occupation, (c) kind or kinds of farm products in which interested, and (d) the names of periodicals or reports (mimeographed or printed) that are being received or have been received regularly from the Bureau of Markets or any other branch of the United States Department of Agriculture.

George Livingston

Acting Chief of Bureau.

REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS

1920 FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF MARKETS
FOREIGN MARKETING INVESTIGATIONS

Washington, D. C., December 26, 1919

CONTENTS

	Page		Page
British Efforts to Attain Independence of American Cotton ..	1	: Reduction in British Maximum Price of Imported Mutton ...	5
British Maximum Prices for Eggs.	3	: Exports of Meat from the United States Show Enormous Increase	5
Review of British Egg Market for Week Ended November 22	3	: Review of British Fruit Market for Week Ended November 22..	7
Market for Condensed Milk in Yucatan	5	: Current Prices of Ceylon Products	8
Average Prices of British Grain.	5		

BRITISH EFFORTS TO ATTAIN INDEPENDENCE OF AMERICAN COTTON

"It has been recognized that one of the weak points in the British cotton industry is its dependence upon foreign supplies of raw material. Many years ago it was realized that the constantly growing demand of the United States industry for American-grown cotton threatened the permanent stability of the British industry." According to the cotton section of the London Times Imperial and Foreign Trade Supplement, "the dominant character of the British trade is indicated by the fact that one-third of the total number of spindles in the world are in British mills."

Cotton Association Formed.---That the British cotton industry should be so dependent upon foreign sources of supply is a thorn in the side of the Lancashire trade. In 1901 considerable attention was drawn to this important subject owing to the reduction of the American crop and it was decided to organize a cotton-growing industry within the British Empire. In the following year the British Cotton Growing Association was formed.

Increased Consumption in the United States.--Statistics issued by this Association show that from 1890 to 1914 the United States consumed only about 31 to 38 per cent of the cotton produced in the United States. Since that time the consumption in this country has been steadily increasing. From a home use of slightly more than one-third of the crop, the United States is now using considerably more than half. For the 1915-16 season it was 53 per cent; for 1916-17, 54 per cent, and for 1917-18, it had increased to 58 per cent.

NOTE.---UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, CONVERSIONS OF FOREIGN PRICES INTO U. S. MONEY HAVE BEEN MADE AT THE PAR VALUE OF THE FOREIGN MONEYS.

The Present British Supply.--The work of stimulating the cotton supply within the British Empire was interrupted by the World War. Nevertheless, 5,500,000 bales of 500 lbs. of cotton are now produced within the limits of the Empire. Most of this is grown in India. However, that country requires more than 50 per cent of the crop for her own consumption and the class of cotton produced is not suitable for the Lancashire trade, being of the short-stapled variety. The following table shows the present position of cotton-growing within the British Empire. It should be noted that less than 100,000 bales are produced in the new regions, an amount smaller than is produced in some counties in the United States.

Class	Source	Estimated production	Stage of development
		<u>Bales*</u>	
Extra-fine...	West Indies	4,500	Experimental
Long-staple...	Egypt	1,360,000	Old region
do	Sudan	16,000	Experimental
Medium-staple	Uganda	32,000	do
do	Nyasaland and : N.E. Rhodesia	5,500	do
do	Nigeria	32,000	do
Short-staple	India	4,000,000	Old region

*Bales of 500 lbs.

The British Cotton-Growing Association is concentrating its efforts on those regions which have offered the best prospects for immediate success, as shown in the foregoing table.

India.--After a thorough investigation, the Cotton Committee reported that only certain parts of Madras and Punjab appear to offer any chances of success for growing long-stapled cotton. The Committee reported that India can not for at least ten years grow cotton in any large commercial quantity of a staple longer than 1-1/16 inches. Nevertheless, one important branch of Lancashire trade, hosiery, can utilize cottons grown in Madras, Bombay, and Hyderabad. These cottons are said to be of excellent color, strong and regular in staple, and range up to one inch in length.

West Indies.--The West Indies at the outbreak of the war were producing 6,000 bales of a fine quality of Sea Island cotton, and it is expected that they can produce all of this class of cotton required by the British industry.

Sudan.--The lack of adequate transportation facilities is given as the cause for the retardation in the development of cotton production. At the present time from 20,000 to 30,000 bales of good Egyptian cotton are being grown there. It is purposed to push the development of the industry in the Sudan as rapidly as possible.

South Africa.--Uganda cotton, which is of medium staple, is being produced in satisfactory quantities, but it is said that the quality is lacking. In 1904 Uganda produced only 15 bales of cotton; in 1914 its production increased to 40,000 bales. During the war the industry suffered a serious check owing to financial difficulties, and the 1916 crop totaled only 22,000 bales.

In Nyasaland and North East Rhodesia the cotton committee expects to increase the production from 5,500 to 100,000 bales.

In Nigeria it is said that 30,000 bales a year of medium-stapled cotton can be expected.

Future of the Cotton Association. --The London Times recently stated that the British Cotton-Growing Association had reached the limit of its financial resources and that it is possible that a Department of the British Government may take over the work or that the Association may be granted Government assistance. The committee is expected to make a report to the British Government in the near future on the entire outlook.

BRITISH MAXIMUM PRICES FOR EGGS. -- The British Food Controller announced on November 24 that the maximum wholesale and retail prices for eggs would remain unaltered, except that maximum prices have been set for Chinese eggs at 4d. (\$0.08) each.

For the information of those who may not be familiar with the old schedule the maximum prices per dozen are given below:

Kind	Wholesale price per doz.		Retail price per doz.		
	At par		At par		
	value	Dec. 19*	value	Dec. 19*	
Fresh:	: s. d.:	: s. d.:	: s. d.:	: s. d.:	
British...	5 0	\$1.22	\$0.94	5 6	\$1.34
Imported...	5 0	1.22	.94	5 6	1.34
Preserved...	4 0	.97	.75	4 6	1.09
Chinese	3 7	.87	.68	4 0	.97
Small	2 8	.65	.50	3 0	.73

*On Dec. 19 one pound sterling = \$3.755.

REVIEW OF THE BRITISH EGG MARKET FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 22*

(Report from Edward A. Foley, American Agricultural Trade Commissioner at London)

London. --There is a large and an unsupplied demand for fresh eggs, but the market is quite irregular for the poorer qualities. The expressions "Fresh Eggs" or "Imported Fresh Eggs" are defined by the Food Controller to mean eggs each weighing 1 1/2 oz. or more, and not having been preserved by pickling, by being held in cold storage, or otherwise. Irish eggs are in very small supply at 50s. (\$1.01 per doz.), and maximum prices are being demanded by exporters. Very few Danish eggs are arriving, and they are commanding control price. Shipments from Denmark are being curtailed, as the maximum price in London does not cover cost, freight, and expenses. The supply of Canadian eggs is decreasing and the price is rising, but

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 22, when one pound sterling = \$4.045.

there are abundant quantities of American eggs available. The fall in exchange is causing heavy losses to American exporters. South African eggs are giving general satisfaction. The Ministry of Food has decided that eggs from that region are to be sold as preserved eggs. Chinese eggs are having poor sales. It is reported that the Chinese importations this winter will be very heavy. Argentine eggs are of good quality.

During the week the following quantities of eggs were imported: United States, 4,131 cases; Canada, 16,168 cases; China, 885; Argentina, 1,063; Denmark, 1,105.

Liverpool.-- Irish eggs are off the market, as the shippers are asking full control prices of 50s. per great hundred (10 doz.); in fact some are going over the control price and are demanding 52s. (\$1.25 per doz.). This has resulted in an increased demand for American and Canadian eggs.

Birmingham.--Fresh eggs are entirely off the market. There is a good supply of American, Canadian, and Danish preserved eggs.

Wholesale Prices of Eggs in Great Britain on November 22, 1919

London

Kind	Per 120	Per doz.	Kind	Per 120	Per doz.
American:	:	:	Irish	50s.	\$1.01
Candled and repacked:	33-34s.	\$0.67-0.69	Chinese,	:	:
Originals	28-31s.	.57- .63	candled	:	:
	: 34-9	: .43- .41	and re-	:	:
Canadian:	:	:	packed...	27s.	.55
Fresh	42-46s.	.85- .93	Argentine	38s. 6d.	.73
Storage	34-40s.	.59- .81	So. African	40s.	.81

Liverpool

American	31s 6d-35s. 11d	0.64-0.71	Canadian	34-36s.	0.59-0.73
----------------	-----------------	-----------	----------------	---------	-----------

Birmingham

American	35s.	\$0.71	Danish, . . .
Canadian	38s.	.77	preserved: 38s. 1d-40s. \$0.73-0.81

Manchester

American	33-36s.	\$0.67-0.73	Canadian	36-38s.	\$0.73-0.77
Irish, pickled	36-38s.	.73- .77			

Glasgow

American	33-33s. 6d	\$0.67-0.73	Canadian	35s.	\$0.73
----------------	------------	-------------	----------------	------	--------

MARKET FOR CONDENSED MILK IN YUCATAN.--About half of the condensed and evaporated milk imported by Mexico is consumed in the Peninsula of Yucatan. The cities along the Gulf of Mexico, Tampico, Vera Cruz, Tuxpan, and Puerto Mexico use large quantities of these products. The City of Mexico is a small consumer. During 1918 the United States exported 4,142,818 lbs. of condensed and evaporated milk to Mexico.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED UPON REQUEST.---The lack of space necessarily precludes the publication of details in many of the articles appearing in Reports on Foreign Markets for Agricultural Products. However, so far as our facilities permit, the Division of Foreign Markets will furnish upon request such additional information as may be available.

Average Prices Per Bushel Received for British Grain During the Week Ended November 29, 1919, and the Same Week in 1912-1918.

(Compiled from Returns made to Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; conversion made at par of exchange)

Year	: Wheat	: Barley	: Oats	::	Year	: Wheat	: Barley	: Oats
1919* ...	\$2.21	: \$3.28	: \$1.70	::	1915 ...	\$1.63	: \$1.49	: \$0.94
1918 ...	2.20	: 1.89	: 1.53	::	1914 ...	1.28	: .92	: .78
1917 ...	2.13	: 1.80	: 1.35	::	1913 ...	.95	: .81	: .56
1916 ...	2.17	: 1.92	: 1.26	::	1912 ...	.94	: .91	: .59

*At the rate of exchange prevailing on November 29, 1919, the average prices for the week were per bushel; Wheat \$1.82; barley \$2.70; oats \$1.40.

REDUCTION IN BRITISH MAXIMUM PRICE OF IMPORTED MUTTON.-- The maximum wholesale price of imported mutton and lamb has been reduced by the British Food Controller from 8s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 8 lbs., effective November 10, 1919. At par of exchange the wholesale rate will be \$21.17 per 100 lbs., or at the rate of exchange prevailing on December 19, \$16.43 per cwt. The prices of other meats given in Reports on Foreign Markets No. 35 remain unchanged.

EXPORTS OF MEAT FROM THE UNITED STATES SHOW ENORMOUS INCREASE.-- Numerous requests for statistics comparing the prewar exportation of meat by the United States with the exportation during the war period have been received by the Bureau of Markets. Therefore, there are given below the data for the five prewar years 1910 - 1914 and for the war period 1915 - 1919. It is readily apparent that even in the first year of the war, the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, our exports of meat doubled. Since then they have increased enormously from the prewar 5-year average of 485,439,375 lbs. to the remarkable total of 2,469,973,393 lbs. for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919. This represents an increase of 409 per cent.

Total Exports of Meat from the United States (a)
for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1910 - 1919

Kind of Meat	Prewar Period				
	1910 Pounds	1911 Pounds	1912 Pounds	1913 Pounds	1914 Pounds
Beef, canned	14,804,595	10,824,504	11,026,431	6,840,348	3,464,73
Beef, fresh	75,729,666	42,510,731	15,264,320	7,362,388	6,394,40
Beef, pickled & other cured	36,871,313	40,283,749	38,087,907	25,856,919	23,265,97
TOTAL BEEF	127,405,575	93,618,984	64,378,658	40,059,655	33,125,11
Bacon	152,163,107	158,675,310	208,574,208	200,993,584	193,964,25
Hams & shoulders					
cured	146,885,385	157,709,316	204,044,491	159,544,687	165,881,79
Pork, canned	4,062,022	4,010,862	5,839,902	4,148,343	3,074,303
Pork, fresh	1,040,278	1,355,378	2,597,880	2,457,997	2,668,020
Pork, pickled	40,031,599	45,729,471	56,321,469	53,749,023	45,543,08
TOTAL PORK	344,182,391	365,480,337	477,377,950	420,893,634	411,131,451
Mutton, ex. canned	1,989,472	2,160,259	3,595,543	5,266,019	4,585,496
Sausage & sausage meat (b)	5,072,255	4,716,610	8,036,591	--	--
Sausage, canned (c)	--	--	--	1,117,400	1,446,582
Sausage, all other (c)	--	--	--	6,893,918	4,562,983
TOTAL, ALL OTHER MEAT	7,061,727	6,876,869	11,632,134	13,277,337	10,695,061
GRAND TOTAL	478,649,693	465,976,190	553,388,742	474,230,626	454,051,623

Kind of Meat	War Period				
	1915 Pounds	1916 Pounds	1917 Pounds	1918 Pounds	1919 Pounds
Beef, canned	75,243,261	50,803,765	67,536,125	97,343,283	108,489,472
Beef, fresh	170,440,934	231,214,000	197,177,101	370,032,900	332,205,175
Beef, pickled & other cured	31,874,743	38,114,682	58,053,667	54,467,910	45,067,651
TOTAL BEEF	277,558,938	320,132,447	322,766,893	521,844,093	435,762,502
Bacon	346,718,227	579,808,786	667,151,972	815,294,424	1,239,540,973
Hams & Shoulders					
cured	203,701,114	282,208,611	266,556,581	419,571,869	667,848,019
Pork, canned	4,644,418	9,610,732	5,896,126	5,194,468	5,273,508
Pork, fresh	3,908,193	63,005,524	50,435,615	21,390,288	19,644,382
Pork, pickled	45,655,574	63,460,713	46,992,721	33,221,502	31,504,497
TOTAL PORK	604,627,526	998,094,366	1,037,133,015	1,294,672,551	1,963,811,385
Mutton, ex. canned	3,877,413	5,552,918	3,195,576	2,098,423	2,173,994
Sausage & sausage meat (b)	--	--	--	--	--
Sausage, canned (c)	1,821,958	6,823,085	6,294,950	5,787,108	8,503,880
Sausage, all other (c)	5,183,525	8,590,236	9,134,471	9,239,341	9,721,925
TOTAL ALL OTHER	10,882,896	20,966,239	18,624,997	17,124,872	20,399,490
GRAND TOTAL	893,069,360	1,339,193,052	1,378,524,905	1,833,841,516	2,469,973,393

(a) Exclusive of poultry and game, sausage casings, and the various meat products, such as lard, tallow, etc.

(b) Reported as "Sausage" after 1912.

(c) Included in "Sausage and Sausage Meats" prior to 1913.

REVIEW OF THE BRITISH FRUIT MARKET FOR THE WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 22*

(Report from Edward A. Foley, American Agricultural Trade Commissioner at London)

London.-- During the past week there has been but little change in the apple situation. British fruit is being absorbed gradually, and American fruit has begun to appear in quantities in the better class of shops.

Liverpool.-- There is considerable complaint about the bad condition of Virginia fruit.

Bristol.-- Apples of the best quality are in good demand.

Manchester.-- The Manchester market was quite bare of American fruit this week, though an arrival on Friday promised a big market for the coming week. There were, however, fair stocks in the hands of retailers selling at the maximum price.

Glasgow.-- There were fair supplies of American apples on hand, but the delay in unloading, owing to the port congestion, often was responsible for the marketing of apples in bad condition. American and Canadian apples in first-class condition brought maximum prices, but those out of condition resulted in heavy losses. There is a glut of English apples, bringing from 10 to 18s. per cwt. of 112 lbs. (\$2.02 to \$3.64).

Apples

London.-- English cooking apples, 5 to 8s (\$1.01-\$1.62) per bu. Blenheim Orange, 10 to 12s. (\$2.02-\$2.43) per bu. Dessert apples, 5s. to 10s. 6d. (\$1.01-\$2.12) per half-bu. American Baldwin, 3s to 38s. (\$6.67-\$7.69) per bbl.; 8s. 6d. to 10s. (\$1.72-\$2.02) per crate.

Liverpool.-- California Yellow Newtown, 23s. (\$4.65) per box. Red, 20s. to 22s. 6d. (\$4.05-\$4.55) per box.

Virginia and Nova Scotia, 20 to 60s. (\$4.05-\$12.14) per bbl.

English apples, 5 to 12 s. (\$1.01-\$2.43) per pot (about 1 bu.)

Bristol.-- Cox Orange Pippin, 5 to 8d. (\$0.08-\$0.13) per lb. Ribston, 4d. (\$0.07) per lb.

Kentish and Blenheim Pippin, 28 to 34s. (\$5.66-\$6.88) per cwt.

Peasgood Nonesuch, 28s. to 32s. 6d. (\$5.66-\$6.57) per cwt.

Bramley Seedling, 28 to 32s. (\$5.66-\$6.47) per cwt.

Underleaves, 16 to 18s. (\$3.24-\$3.64) per cwt.

York Imperial (Canadian), 30 to 40s. (\$6.07-\$8.09) per bbl.

Baldwin (Nova Scotia) 30 to 35s. (\$6.07-\$7.08) per bbl.

Pears

London.-- English, 6 to 7s. (\$1.21-\$1.42) per half-bu.

Liverpool.-- English, 5 to 20s. (\$1.01-\$4.05) per pot (about 1 bu.).

Oregon, 20 to 25s. (\$4.05-\$5.06) per box.

Bristol.-- Conference, 4 to 6d. (\$0.07-\$0.10) per lb.

Pitmaston Dutchess, 6 to 8d. (\$0.10-\$0.13) per lb.

Doyer Comice, 7 to 10d. (\$0.12-\$0.17) per lb.

Belgian Stewing, 20 to 30s. (\$4.05-\$6.07) per large bbl.; 12 to 14s. (\$2.43-\$2.83) per 1/2 bbl.

Glasgow.-- English, 10 to 16s. (\$2.02-\$3.24) per half-sieve (1/2 bu.).

California Winter Nelis, 35 to 40s. (\$7.08-\$8.09) per box.

*Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on November 22, when 1 pound sterling = \$4.045.

Oranges

London.-- Denia and Valencia:

Per case

420's, 30 to 55s. (\$6.07-\$11.12)
714's, 35 to 52s. (7.08- 10.52)
1064's, 37 to 48s. (7.48- 9.71)
Large 37 to 60s. (7.48- 12.14)

Garrucha (per case):

420's, 37s. (\$7.48)

Murcia (per case):

360's, 20s. (\$4.05)

Malaga:

Per case

420's, 22 to 37s. (\$4.45-\$7.48)
714's, 26 to 29s. (5.25- 5.87)
1064's, 28 to 30s. (5.66- 6.07)

Almeria (per case):

300's, 24s. (\$4.85)

504's, 24s. (4.85)

Jamaica (per case) 22 to 27s. (\$4.45-\$5.46).

Liverpool.-- Valencia (per half-case):

300-360's, 31 to 35s. (\$6.27-\$7.08) : 240's, 36s. (\$7.28)
504's, 30 to 35s. (\$6.07-\$7.08).

Jamaica, 28 to 34s. (\$5.66-\$6.88) per box.

Murcia, 31 to 35s. (\$6.27-\$7.28) per half-case.

Bristol.-- Jamaica, 28 to 30s. (\$5.66-\$6.07) per case.

Denia (per half-case):

300-360's, 30s. to 32s. 6d. (\$6.07-6.57) : 504-588's, 25 to 30s. (\$5.06-\$6.07)

Valencia (per half-case):

200-360's, 28 to 30s. (\$5.66-\$6.07) : 504-533's, 22 to 28s. (\$4.45-\$5.66)

Manchester.-- African, 40s. (\$8.09) per case.

Jamaica, 28s. (\$5.66) per case.

Canaries, 40s. (\$3.09) per case.

Valencia, 35 to 45s. (\$7.08-\$9.10) per case.

Glasgow.-- Jamaica, 30 to 34s. (\$6.07-\$6.38) : California, 45s. (\$9.10) per box.

Current Prices of Products of Ceylon

Commodity	:	Unit	:	Price	:	Export duty
Cinnamon:	:		:		:	
Quills	:	Pound	:	\$0.39 - \$0.35	:	---
Chips	:	Candy of 560 lbs.	:	\$38.00- \$42.20	:	---
Cocoa	:	Cwt.*	:	\$8.45 - \$33.80	:	\$0.63 per 100 lbs.
Coconut, desiccated ..	:	Pound	:	\$.17 - \$.18	:	.30 per cwt.*
Coconut oil	:	Ton	:	Not available	:	---
Copra	:	Candy of 560 lbs.	:	\$39.06- \$40.77	:	.17 per cwt.*
Coconut bristle No. 1 :	:	Cwt.*	:	\$ 6.97- \$ 7.82	:	---
Coconut mattress No. 1 :	:	Cwt.*	:	\$ 74- \$ 1.06	:	---

-Compiled from Weekly Price Current of Ceylon Chamber of Commerce,
Oct. 6, 1919.

*112 lbs.